GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1662
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2001
RURAL BELOW POVERTY LINE
RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of rural population living below poverty line at present in Gujarat;

(b) the comparative figure of such population to other States as well as nation as a whole; and

(c) the steps being taken of proposed to be taken to reduce the percentage of poverty in the State?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT, MINISTER OF STATE MINISTRIES OF PLANNING, STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRIATIVE REORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a): The Planning Commissionestimates percentage of persons living below the poverty line at national and state level from the large sample surveys on consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey (NSS) Organisation.The last such survey was conducted in the 55th Round of the NSS covering the period July 1999 to June 2000. On the basis of the 30-day recall tabulation in the Key Results ofthe 55th Round large sample survey of Household Consumer Expenditure in Indiacarried out by the National Sample Survey Organisation, the percentage of rural population living below the poverty line in Gujarat in 1999-2000 is estimated as 13.17%.

(b): The comparative estimates of poverty for other states and at national level are Annexed.

(c): There is a three-pronged action to alleviate and reduce the poverty in the country. These are:
(i) acceleration of economic growth,
(ii) human, and social development through literacy, education, health, nutrition, meeting of the minimum needs, elevation of social and economic status of the weaker sections of the society, etc., and
(iii) direct attack on poverty through employment and income generating programmes and assets-building for the poor.

The increase in income of the people living below the poverty line occur from the joint impact of general growth process and direct income generation of the poor arising from various anti-poverty programmes introduced from time to time by the Government for their upliftment. Since the Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-85), theGovernment has been implementing employment and asset generation schemes for the upliftment of the people living below the poverty line. These schemes are mainly of two types, self-employment and wage employment. Integrated Rural DevelopmentProgramme (IRDP) has been the major self-employment programme and it has been in operation in all the blocks of the country since 1980. The wage employment programme initially was National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) during theSixth Plan period. In the Seventh Plan, another wage employment programme underthe name Rural Labour Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) wasintroduced. Then in 1989, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) was launched by merging the National Rural Employment Programme and the Rural Labour EmploymentGuarantee Programme, and it became the main wage-employment programme. In addition, several programmes to help the poor were also in operation until March, 1999. These programmes are:Million Wells Scheme (MWS),Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas(DWCRA), Training of Rural Youth for Self- Employment (TRYSEM),Supply of Improved Toolkits to Rural Artisans (SITRA).

From 1st April, 1999, these programmes, excepting EAS and JRY have beenrestructured into single self-employment programme called the Swarnajayanti GramSwarozgar Yojana (SGSY) with the primary objectives of focussed approach topoverty alleviation, capitalising advantages of group lending, and overcoming the problems associated with multiplicity of programmes. Also, from 1st April, 1999, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) has been restructured as Jawahar Gram SamridhiYojana (JGSY)with the primary objective of creation of demand driven community village infrastructure including durable assets at the village level and assets to enable the rural poor to increase the opportunities for sustained employment. Its secondary objective is generation of supplementary employment for the unemployed poor in the rural areas. The wage employment under the programme is given to Below PovertyLines (BPL) families.

From 1.12.1997, Swarna Jayanti Sahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) is themain poverty alleviation programme in the urban areas. The SJSRY, which hassubsumed all the earlier three urban poverty alleviation programmes, viz., Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY), Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP), Prime Minister'sIntegrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP), seeks to provide gainful employment to unemployed or underemployed urban and educated up to IX standard for setting up self employment

ventures or provision of wage employment. The implementation of SJSRY is relying on suitable community structures on theUBSP pattern and delivery of inputs under this programme is through the medium of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and such community structure.

ANNEXURE

Number and Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line by States - 1999-2000 (30-day Recall period)

No.	States/U.T.`s	Rural		Urban		Combined	
		No. of Persons (Lakhs)	% of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	% of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	% of Persons
1.	Andhra Pradesh	58.13	11.05	60.88	26.63	119.01	15.77
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.80	40.04	0.18	7.47	3.98	33.47
3.	Assam	92.17	40.04	2.38	7.47	94.55	36.09
4.	Bihar	376.51	44.30	49.13	32.91	425.64	42.60
5.	Goa	0.11	1.35	0.59	7.52	0.70	4.40
6.	Gujarat	39.80	13.17	28.09	15.59	67.89	14.07
7	Haryana	11.94	8.27	5.39	9.99	17.34	8.74
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4.84	7.94	0.29	4.63	5.12	7.63
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2.97	3.97	0.49	1.98	3.46	3.48
10.	Karnataka	59.91	17.38	44.49	25.25	104.40	20.04
11.	Kerala	20.97	9.38	20.07	20.27	41.04	12.72
12.	Madhya Pradesh	217.32	37.06	81.22	38.44	298.54	37.43
13.	Maharashtra	125.12	23.72	102.87	26.81	227.99	25.02
14.	Manipur	6.53	40.04	0.66	7.47	7.19	28.54
15.	Meghalaya	7.89	40.04	0.34	7.47	8.23	33.87
16.	Mizoram	1.40	40.04	0.45	7.47	1.85	19.47
17.	Nagaland	5.21	40.04	0.28	7.47	5.49	32.67
18.	Orissa	143.69	48.01	25.40	42.83	169.09	47.15
19.	Punjab	10.20	6.35	4.29	5.75	14.49	6.16
20.	Rajasthan	55.06	13.74	26.78	19.85	81.83	15.28
21.	Sikkim	2.00	40.04	0.04	7.47	2.05	36.55
22.	Tamil Nadu	80.51	20.55	49.97	22.11	130.48	21.12
23.	Tripura	12.53	40.04	0.49	7.47	13.02	34.44
24.	Uttar Pradesh	412.01	31.22	117.88	30.89	529.89	31.15
25.	West Bengal	180.11	31.85	33.38	14.86	213.49	27.02
26.	A & N Island	0.58	20.55	0.24	22.11	0.82	20.99
27.	Chandigarh	0.06	5.75	0.45	5.75	0.51	5.75
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.30	17.57	0.03	13.52	0.33	17.14
29.	Daman & Diu	0.01	1.35	0.05	7.52	0.06	4.44
30.	Delhi	0.07	0.40	11.42	9.42	11.49	8.23
31.	Lakshadweep	0.03	9.38	0.08	20.27	0.11	15.60
32.	Pondicherry	0.64	20.55	1.77	22.11	2.41	21.67
All India		1932.43	27.09	670.07	23.62	2602.50	26.10

Notes:

1. Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh,Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur,Nagaland and Tripura.

2. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is used to estimate

poverty ratio of Goa.

3. Poverty Line of Himachal Pradesh and expenditure distribution of Jammu & Kashmir is used to estimate poverty ratio of Jammu & Kashmir.

4. Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A & N Island.

5. Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.

6. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

7. Poverty Ratio of Goa is used for Daman & Diu.

8. Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used for Lakshadweep.

9. Urban Poverty Ratio of Rajasthan may be treated as tentative.